

- REMARKS / ARGUMENTS -

Claims 1 to 10, 12 to 17 and 19 to 22 remain in the present application. Claims 1 and 12 are currently amended by inserting a new limitation therein.

Objection to the disclosure

The Final Office Action (OA) objects to the specification as follows "page 7, line 16, "172" appears it should be -174-." The Applicant respectfully submits that there is no correction to make to the reference numeral "172" on page 7, line 16. Air flow 174 is shown to be different from air flow 172 on Figs. 2 and 3.

Rejection of claims 1-10, 12-17 and 19-22 under 35 USC §103(a)

As discussed during an interview with the Examiner on April 19, 2006, the prior art does not show that a portion of cooling air is directly admitted to the turbine shroud area while another portion of cooling air is diverted to other components (other than the turbine) of the gas turbine engine. The Applicant has amended claims 1 and 12 to include "controlling a first portion of cooling air admitted directly to said turbine shroud area" and "diverting a second portion of said cooling air to other components of the gas turbine engine". One can find support for these limitations in paragraphs 0020, 0021 and 0022 of the description on file as well as in Fig. 4. No new matter is introduced by these claim amendments.

The claims as modified herein are therefore not obvious in view of cited prior art. In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the 103(a) rejection is respectfully requested.

It is believed that claims 1 to 10, 12 to 17 and 19 to 22 are allowable over the prior art, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Serial No. 10/717,624
Reply to Office Action of December 12, 2005

Agent's Ref. 2993-484US
Amndt. dated May 12, 2006

Substance of Interview Report

An telephonic interview took place on April 19, 2006 regarding the present case. The participants were: Ted Kim, Examiner; C. Marc Benoit, Agent of Record of the Firm Ogilvy Renault LLP; Hélène Chotard, of the Firm Ogilvy Renault LLP. Claims 1 and 12 were discussed in view of the applied references and Hagi (6,152,685). No agreement was reached. The rejections of record were discussed. The possibility of amending the claims to claim the direct by pass around the pulse with modulation valve of Fig. 4 of the specification was discussed. The Hagi reference was pointed out as having a bypass and any amendment would need to avoid possible combination with this reference in combination with pulse width modulation.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard ULLYOT

By:



C. Marc BENOIT,
Registration No. 50,200
Patent agent
Tel. No. 418-847-4462

Customer Number 020988
OGILVY RENAULT, LLP

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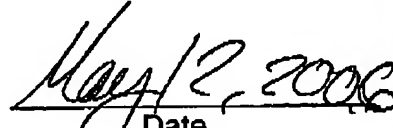
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